



State of Missouri **Recycling Report**

FY2025

From the Director



I am pleased to present the fiscal year 2025 Annual Report for the Surplus and Recycling Program.

This year reflects meaningful progress in strengthening partnerships, expanding engagement, and advancing sustainability across Missouri state government.

Our program's success is built on collaboration. By working closely with state agencies and organizations, we've identified new opportunities to reduce waste, reuse materials, and promote environmentally responsible practices. These partnerships have allowed us to increase participation in recycling efforts, support agency goals, and demonstrate the collective impact of working together toward a cleaner, more sustainable Missouri.

This report also reflects an important improvement in how we share our results. In previous years, our reporting included a mix of Calendar Year and Fiscal Year data. Beginning this year, we transitioned to a unified Fiscal Year reporting model. This shift allows us to deliver information that is clearer, more consistent, and better aligned with statewide budgeting and planning cycles. By focusing solely on the Fiscal Year, we can provide more timely updates and stronger year-over-year comparisons that support improved decision-making for our partners and leadership teams.

The achievements highlighted in this report represent the dedication of our team and the ongoing commitment of our partners to responsible resource management and continuous improvement.

This year, the Surplus and Recycling Program continued to turn sustainability into measurable savings for the State of Missouri. Through collaboration, creativity, and commitment, our recycling efforts achieved meaningful results that benefit both the environment and taxpayers.

Fiscal Year 2025 Key Achievements

- 10.39 million pounds of materials recycled, saving enough energy to power more than 3,000 Missouri homes for a full year.
- \$769,335.50 saved through reduced disposition costs, avoided purchasing expenses, and direct revenue generation. (net financial benefit)

Every pound recycled and every product purchased with sustainability in mind helps protect our environment, reduce costs, and extend the life of valuable materials. These results demonstrate that responsible resource management is not only environmentally sound but financially wise for the State of Missouri.

We extend our appreciation to the Administration, the General Assembly, and all our partners who continue to champion these efforts. Together, we are making recycling count.



Crystal Wessing

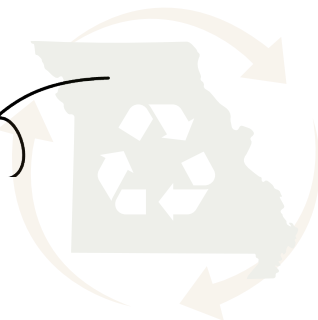


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About the State Recycling Program

In 1989, the Missouri State Recycling Program was established when legislation added sections 34.031 and 34.032 to Chapter 34 of the Missouri Revised Statutes. The program was created to help state team members and agencies develop fiscally and environmentally responsible strategies for the reuse and recycling of state property.

Today, that mission continues through the Surplus and Recycling Program, which brings together two vital functions with one shared goal: making the most of Missouri’s resources. By combining the Surplus Property and Recycling programs in FY25, we have created a unified effort that reduces waste, saves money, and supports sustainability across state government.

This partnership allows us to give new life to items no longer needed by one agency through reuse, redistribution, or recycling,

ensuring valuable materials continue to serve a purpose instead of ending up in a landfill. Together, these efforts stretch state dollars further and promote a cleaner, more sustainable future for Missouri.

The program’s success is built on collaboration. Our team works closely with state agencies to identify opportunities for reuse and recycling, while the Missouri Interagency Recycling Committee (MIRC) strengthens these efforts by sharing ideas and encouraging innovation.

At the heart of it all are State team members. Their dedication makes it possible to recycle thousands of pounds of material each day, turning everyday actions into lasting environmental and financial benefits for the State of Missouri.



FY 2025 Events

2025 Earth Day and 15th Annual Zero Waste Challenge

The Surplus and Recycling Program partnered with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources for the annual Earth Day celebration at the Capitol in April 2025. The program led the 15th Annual Zero Waste Challenge with help from team member volunteers across the state who guided visitors in sorting materials at each waste station.



To make the event more hands-on, the program displayed examples of materials recycled through state partnerships. These included electronics collected with the Office of Administration's Information Technology Services Division, uniforms reused through the Missouri State Highway Patrol, and glass that showed how it looks once recycled. Students and attendees also joined a fun sorting challenge where they had 30 seconds to place items in the correct recycling bins. The activity helped everyone see how proper sorting makes recycling more effective and benefits the environment.

Through these efforts, more than 190 pounds of waste were kept out of the landfill. The total diversion rate increased by 8 percent from the previous year, and total waste went down by 25 percent, supported by the Department of Natural Resources' efforts to promote reusable bottles and a free water station for attendees.



COLLECTION TOTALS

196

lbs. overall



40

lbs. of recyclables



76

lbs. of food waste composted

59%

diverted from the landfill
(up 8% from last year)

25%

less waste than 2024 (due to DNR's efforts in encouraging reusable water bottles and a free water station).



Office of Administration Bring Your Child to Work Day

During the Office of Administration's Bring Your Kid to Work Day event in June 2025, the Surplus and Recycling Program proudly represented the Division of General Services by showcasing the valuable contributions our team makes to the State of Missouri.

Our display featured a variety of materials recycled through the program, including printer cartridges, shredded Missouri State Highway Patrol uniforms, and other examples of recovered state property. Parents and children explored the different types of items the program manages and learned about the importance of recycling and reuse across state government.



To make the experience more interactive, we hosted a game where kids could grab a piece of trash and try to toss it into the correct recycling container to win prizes. Each child also received a coloring book created by Document Solutions that highlighted the programs and services offered by General Services.

The event provided a fun and educational way to engage families while promoting awareness of the Surplus and Recycling Program's ongoing efforts to support sustainability across Missouri.

6th Annual Holiday Lights Recycling Collection Campaign

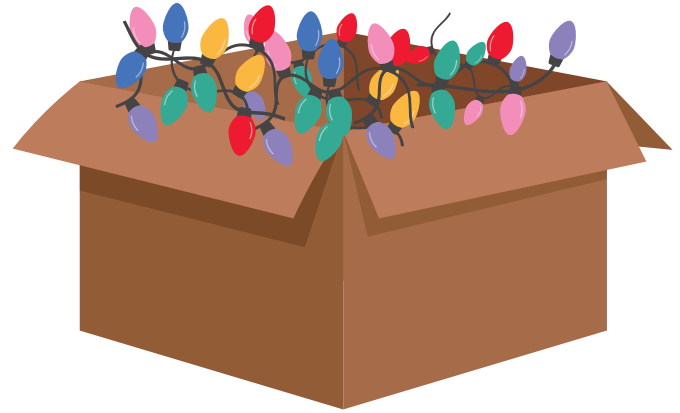
This year, the Surplus and Recycling Program once again partnered with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to host the annual Holiday Lights Recycling Collection Campaign. The collection provides a convenient way for state team members and the public to recycle non-working holiday lights instead of sending them to the landfill.

Once collected, the glass, plastic, and metals from the lights are carefully separated and recycled into new materials, including jewelry, construction supplies, car batteries, and even slipper soles. Beyond the pounds collected each year, the Holiday Lights Recycling Campaign

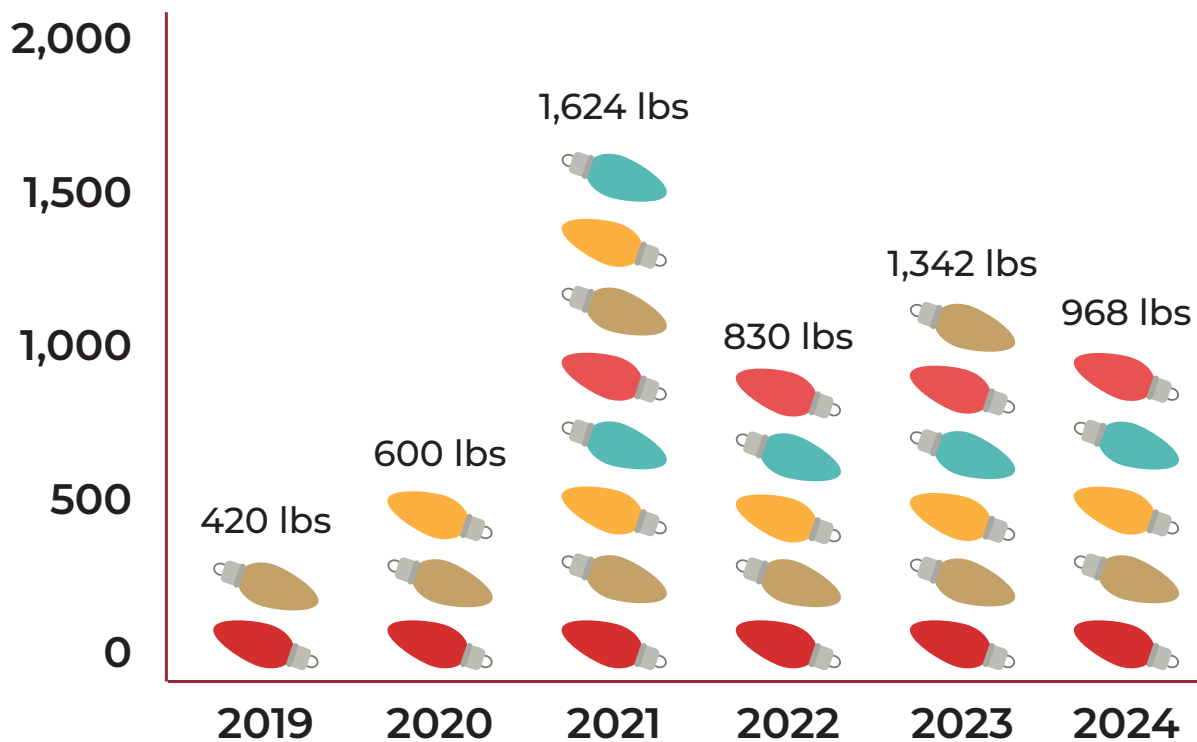


has created a meaningful and lasting impact across Missouri. Since 2019, more than five thousand pounds of holiday lights have been diverted from landfills, easing pressure on waste facilities, preventing harmful materials from entering Missouri's soil and waterways, and supporting the creation of new products through responsible recycling channels.

The Surplus and Recycling Program is grateful to the many state team members who continue to support this effort by collecting and donating lights each holiday season. Their participation helps protect our environment, conserve resources, and promote responsible recycling practices statewide.



Pounds of Holiday Lights Recycled



Annual Recycling Champions Awards

The Surplus and Recycling Program proudly recognized State employees and agencies who demonstrated exceptional dedication to waste reduction, recycling, and environmental stewardship throughout the year.

These awards honored the creativity, collaboration, and commitment of individuals and teams who made sustainability a priority across Missouri state government.

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December 2024 Individual Recycling Champion: Amy Rowden

Amy Rowden, 30th Circuit manager of the Department of Social Services’ Children’s Division, leads by example in her dedication to a cleaner planet and a better future for sea turtles and the environment. Her passion for sustainability shines through in her everyday choices, like using reusable straws, bringing her own bags for groceries, and minimizing paper use by opting for digital formats whenever possible. Amy also has a personal recycling setup in her car for leftover food, avoiding single-use plastic and Styrofoam containers when dining out. She even fishes trash out of rivers and encourages her coworkers to be mindful of their environmental impact.

She’ll gently remind anyone using disposable items to reconsider, always advocating for reduce, reuse, and recycle. Amy is the “Recycling Queen” of the 30th Circuit, tirelessly encouraging us all to take small steps for a big difference.



OA Commissioner Ken Zellers, Amy Rowden, Surplus and Recycling Coordinator Cameron Gehlert, and OA Deputy Commissioner and General Counsel Caroline Coulter

December 2024 Team Recycling Champion: MOREuse Movers

When the ITSD-DSS building was lost to a fire more than 2.5 years ago, a creative solution emerged to refurnish the new office location at West Truman Boulevard. By coming together as a team, Kerry Kroll and Dana Ferguson (Attorney General's Office), Greg Luebbering (Missouri Supreme Court), Terry Stratman (Department of Health & Senior Services), Randy Libbert (Department of Elementary and Secondary Education), and Mary Kay Holterman (Office of Administration) were able to secure an extensive list of used furniture through the MOREuse program, valued at over \$71,500. This collaboration saved the State of Missouri substantial costs and helped clear out storage spaces across agencies.

The contributions included 23 executive desks, seven credenzas, 40+ office chairs, conference tables, bookcases, shelving units, and more; all vital pieces to support OA-ITSD-DSS' approximately 90 team members. Special thanks to Jeff Cassmeyer, App Dev Manager, who personally transported a large conference room table that was too big for the moving company. This teamwork exemplifies resourcefulness and the power of multi-agency collaboration.



OA Commissioner Ken Zellers, OA Deputy Commissioner and General Counsel Caroline Coulter, MOREuse Movers Jeff Cassmeyer, Mary Kay Holterman, Kerry Kroll, Dana Ferguson, and Surplus and Recycling Coordinator Cameron Gehlert

A Year of Partnerships

This past year, the Surplus and Recycling Program continued to strengthen collaboration with agencies across Missouri to make the most of the state's resources. By working together, we identify opportunities to reuse surplus property, improve recycling systems, and share solutions that reduce waste and save money.

These partnerships help agencies meet their sustainability goals while ensuring that valuable materials are kept in use and out of landfills. Whether coordinating statewide

collection programs, supporting office recycling efforts, or helping departments repurpose surplus items, our shared work turns everyday actions into measurable results for Missouri.

The success of these efforts reflects a collective commitment to efficiency, innovation, and environmental responsibility, showing what can be accomplished when state agencies work together toward a common purpose.

Office of Administration Information Technology Services Division Print Room Clean-Out

From December 2024 through March 2025, the Surplus and Recycling Program partnered with the Office of Administration-Information Technology Services Division (OA-ITSD) to assist with a major cleanout of the ITSD Print Room. Over time, this space had accumulated outdated equipment in need of proper disposal and had become a general storage area for unused materials. The project prepared the space for additional printers, lab equipment, and a new server prep area.

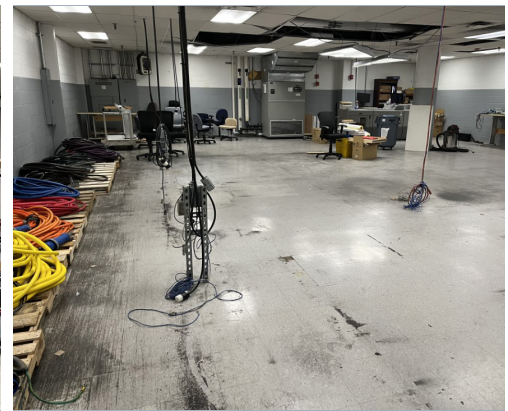
Through this collaboration, thousands of pounds of potential waste were diverted from landfills. The team utilized recycling options and promoted reuse by selling functional items on GovDeals. Many pieces of equipment found new use through redistribution or resale, extending their service life and conserving natural resources and energy.



In total, the project diverted more than 17,000 pounds of material from the landfill and generated over \$6,500 in funds to support the Surplus and Recycling Program's continued operations.

“The Information Technology Services Division had an overwhelming need for assistance in getting this area cleaned up so it could be fully utilized. Knowing that the Surplus and Recycling Program had the knowledge and experience to manage this large task was a huge relief for our team. The cleanup effort was absolutely amazing and made a tremendous impact. I cannot thank Cameron Gehlert and his team enough for the hard work that went into completing this great feat.”

- Amanda Denny, OA-ITSD



Missouri State Highway Patrol and Sheltered Workshop Uniform Recycling Project

One of the most innovative projects supported by the Surplus and Recycling Program this year was a partnership between the Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP) and one of Missouri's Sheltered Workshops. Together, they found a creative way to recycle shredded law enforcement uniforms into archery targets.

For security reasons, the Missouri State Highway Patrol processes and shreds all old or damaged uniforms in-house. While this prevents resale, it often leaves large quantities of shredded textile material without a clear recycling option. The Surplus and Recycling team helped connect MSHP with a Sheltered Workshop that recognized the potential of this material to be reused rather than sent to the landfill.

The workshop now collects shredded uniform textiles and uses them as filler for archery



targets. Each target is made by compressing the shredded fibers into layered blocks, which are then wrapped in durable fabric to create a safe, high-quality target for use by individuals and school archery programs across the state.

This partnership not only prevents valuable material from entering the waste stream but also supports meaningful employment opportunities within the Sheltered Workshop community. It demonstrates how collaboration between State programs can turn what was once waste into something useful and beneficial for others.

DraftShields

MADE PROUDLY BY GATEWAY INDUSTRIES OF ELDON MO
a workplace providing dignified employment for individuals with disabilities.

\$8.00

100% RECYCLED

Our DraftShield door draft stoppers are crafted from recycled Missouri Highway Patrol uniforms, giving new life to materials that once served to protect. Now, they protect your home from chilly drafts- with dignity and purpose!



- ✓ Stops Drafts.
- ✓ Eco-friendly & Sustainable
- ✓ Functional & Durable
- ✓ Creates Meaningful & Inclusive Employment

Add a touch of purpose to your home decor while keeping warmth in and drafts out. Available to fit most doors and windows, in a variety of designs.



1204 E. North St. Eldon MO 65026 | 573-392-4405 | gatind@att.net



The workshop collects shredded uniform textiles and uses them as filler for archery targets.

RE-AIM

ARCHERY TARGETS

\$25.00

SAVE MONEY, SAVE THE PLANET, AND ENJOY A SUPERIOR ARCHERY EXPERIENCE.

MADE PROUDLY BY GATEWAY INDUSTRIES OF ELDON MO
a workplace providing dignified employment for individuals with disabilities.

Hit your mark-and help the planet

Our Archery Targets are crafted from recycled Missouri Highway Patrol uniforms, giving new life to materials that once served to protect. Now they are being used for a product that stops any arrow offering a perfect target for archers of all levels.

SUSTAINABLE * DURABLE * PRECISION-READY

WHY CHOOSE RE-AIM ?

- MADE FROM RECYCLED MATERIAL-environmentally responsible
- Tough design- built to take the shots
- Perfect for target practice, archery clubs, youth programs, and backyard fun!
- Helping us find MEANINGFUL EMPLOYMENT!!!




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Reduction and Reuse

Six Years of MOREuse

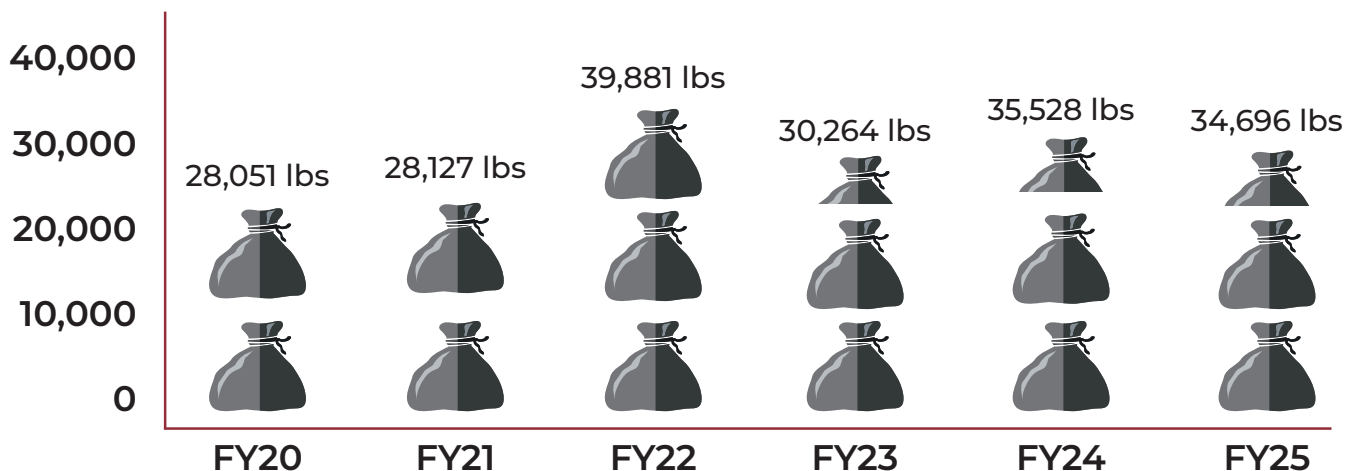
Fiscal year 2025 marked the sixth anniversary of the [MOREuse Program](#), a milestone that reflects steady growth, strong agency participation, and a continued commitment to responsible stewardship of state resources. Since its launch, MOREuse has become an essential tool for helping Missouri state agencies share excess property efficiently, reduce waste, and extend the useful life of materials that would otherwise be discarded. Supported and managed by the Surplus and Recycling Program, MOREuse continues to strengthen statewide sustainability efforts through collaboration and innovation.

This year's data shows the measurable value of the program. Since FY20, agencies have diverted a cumulative 196,547 pounds of materials from landfills by reusing items through MOREuse. This diversion not only reduces disposal needs but also keeps valuable resources in circulation, preserving environmental and financial benefits for the state.

The financial impact is equally significant. In fiscal year 2025 alone, MOREuse generated \$249,532 in avoided purchasing costs for participating agencies. When combined with savings from earlier years, the program's cumulative financial benefit is now estimated to be well over half a million dollars in avoided spending. These results demonstrate how effective resource sharing can be when agencies are equipped with the right platform and supported by the Surplus and Recycling Program's ongoing guidance and leadership.

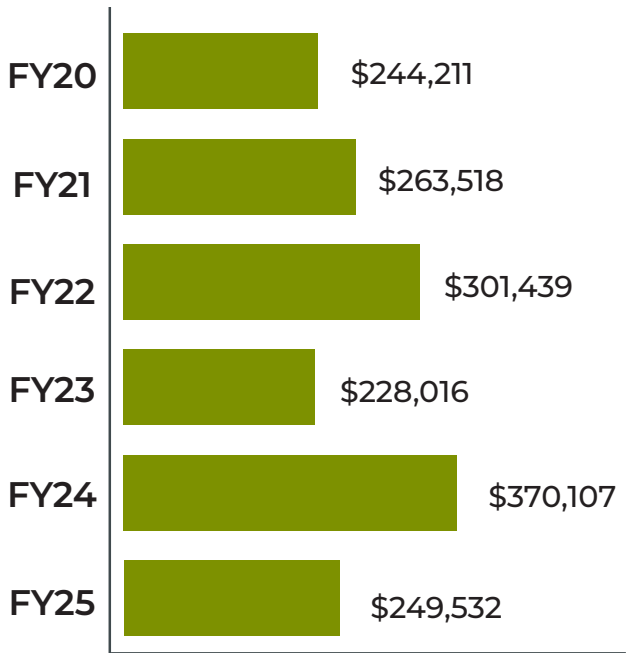
As we celebrate six years of MOREuse, we recognize the continued commitment of Missouri's state agencies and the dedicated efforts of the Surplus and Recycling Program team. Together, we are ensuring that state property is used wisely, sustainably, and in a way that delivers lasting value to the people of Missouri.

Pounds of Materials Diverted from Landfills



Cumulative Weight: 196,547 lbs

Purchasing Costs Avoided



\$9,827.35
Total Avoided
Disposal
Fees

\$1,656,823
Cumulative
Savings

\$249,532
Purchasing
Costs
Avoided



Reduction and Reuse (continued)

The MOREuse community is made up of **givers** (agencies with unneeded property) and **takers** (agencies that need the property). Property posted or exchanged on MOREuse is for State agency use only.

Top Three Giver Agencies



Office of Administration - \$ 56,146
Department of Revenue - \$49,899
Commerce and Insurance - \$40,225

Top Three Taker Agencies



Department of Corrections - \$166,404
Economic Development - \$22,897
Office of Administration - \$22,242

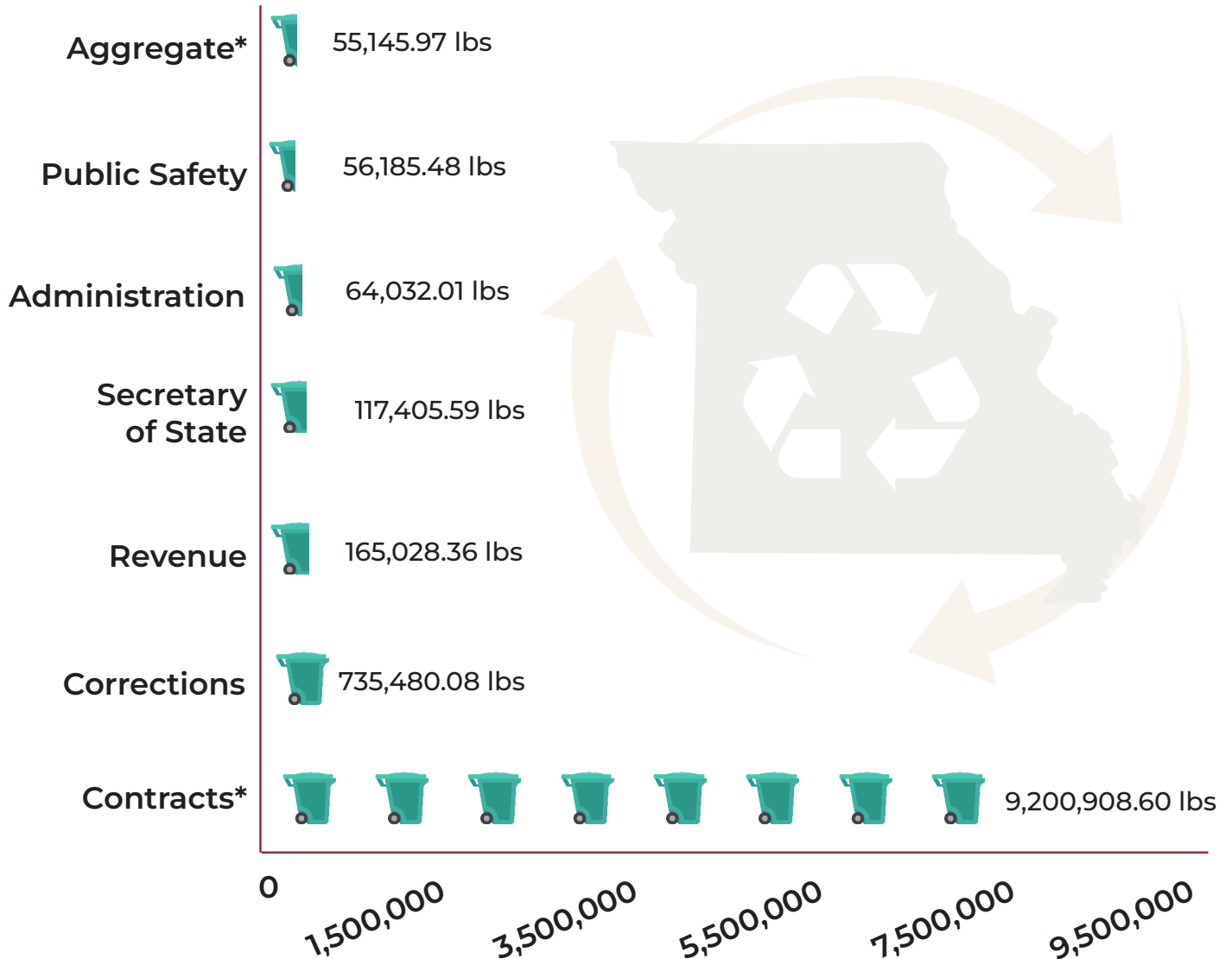
*Giver and taker values may not match in any year because items are valued differently. Giver value is based on the estimated replacement cost, while taker value reflects the actual condition and usefulness of the items received. Differences can also occur due to the timing of when items are listed, claimed, and recorded. All values are reported for the fiscal year, which runs from July 1 to June 30.

Recycling By the Numbers



Year Total:
10,394,186.09 lbs

Total Pounds Recycled by Department



*"Contracts" represents total weight of recycled materials generated through the various recycling contracts the Surplus and Recycling Program has within the State, primarily Federal Recycling. Due to high volume and consolidated collections, individual department contributions cannot be differentiated. Similarly, "Aggregate" denotes waste combined from multiple sources into a single total.

State Recycling Fund

The State Recycling Fund was created under RSMo 34.032, which allows money made from selling recycled materials to help cover the costs of recycling operations. All money in the fund is used only for recycling-related expenses that support state government programs.

The Surplus and Recycling Program works closely with state agencies to make recycling efforts successful across Missouri. By sharing ideas, combining resources, and working together, agencies can create stronger and more efficient recycling systems. This teamwork helps reduce waste, lower costs, and improve recycling opportunities statewide.

The fund also makes it possible to reinvest in equipment, training, and projects that help agencies improve their recycling programs. Through collaboration, state employees continue to show their commitment to protecting the environment, saving money, and making the best use of Missouri's resources.

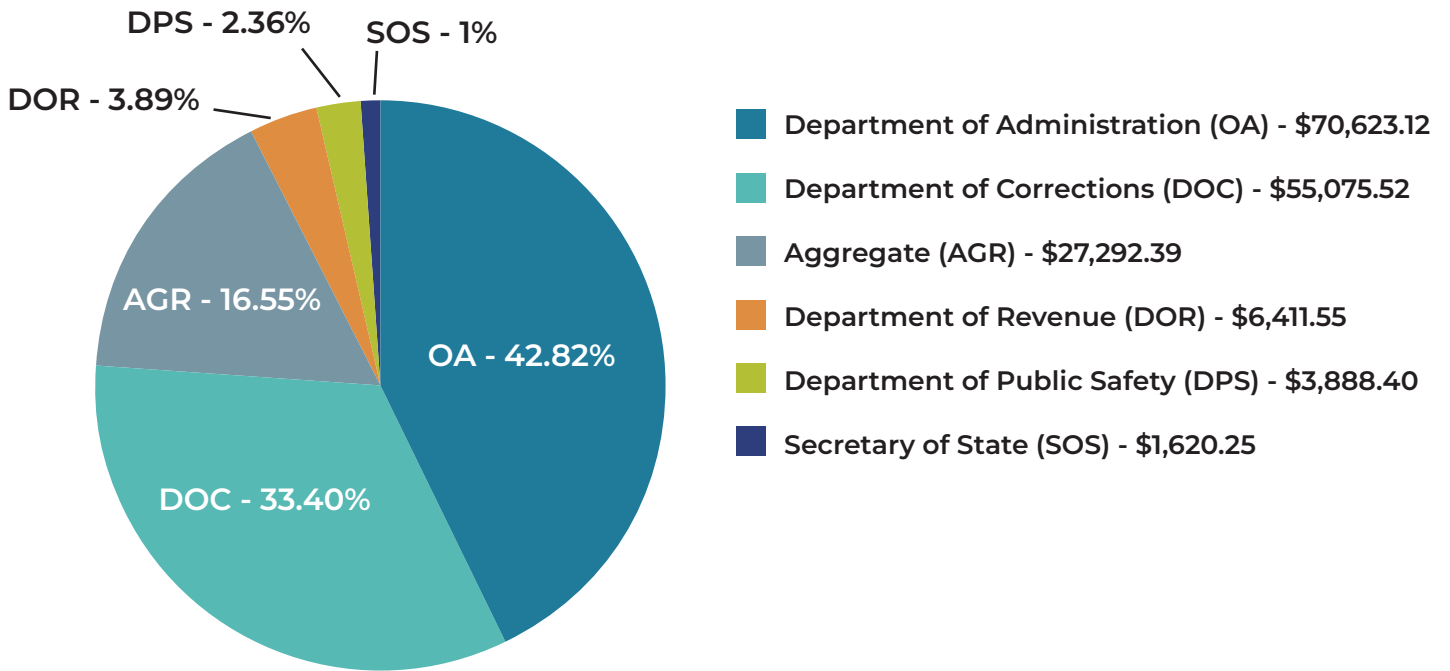
All state agencies take part in recycling at some level, and that teamwork is a key part of the program's success.

Missouri State Recycling Program Financial Summary*



*As a self-sustaining program, Surplus and Recycling has been impacted by fluctuating commodity markets in recent years. To ensure financial sustainability, the program has implemented strategies for significantly reducing administrative cost and identifying opportunities for growing revenue.

Sources of Revenue for FY25



Revenue by Waste Stream



Contributions to the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program

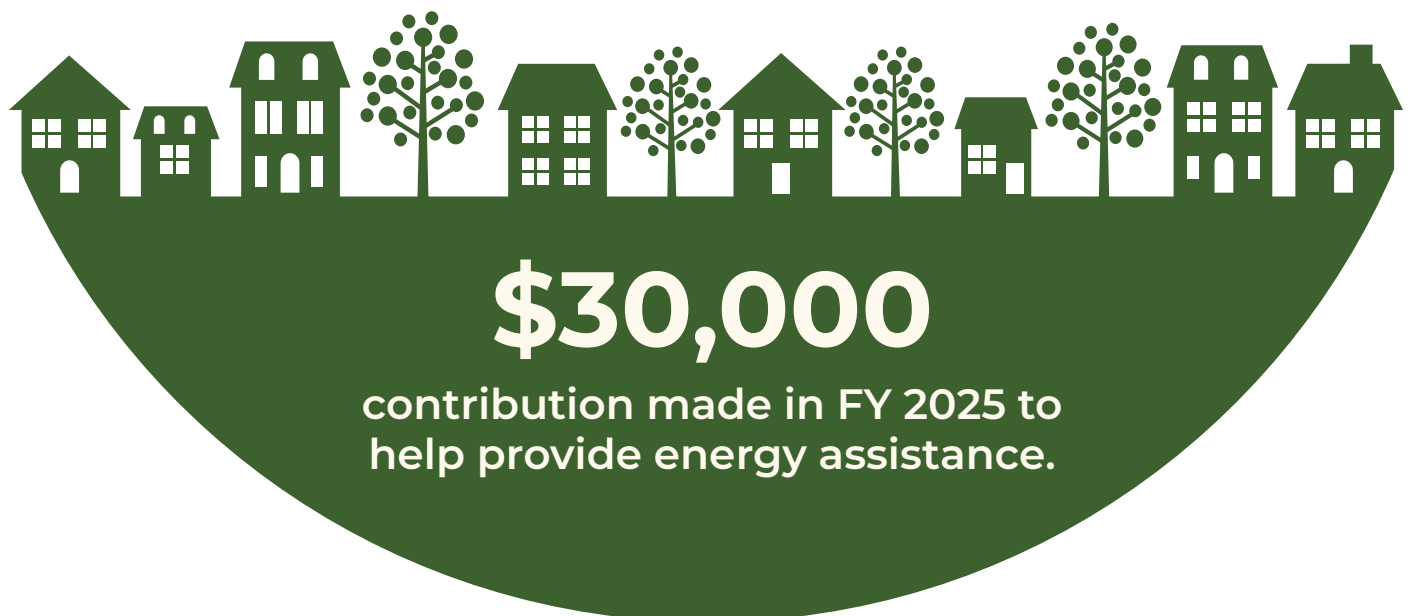
The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is managed by the Missouri Department of Social Services and provides critical financial support to help low-income Missourians manage their home energy costs. The program assists households with heating and cooling bills, prevents energy shutoffs, and offers emergency energy assistance to families facing unsafe living conditions due to extreme temperatures. By easing the financial strain of high utility costs, LIHEAP helps families maintain safe and healthy homes throughout the year.



Under RSMo 34.032, any excess revenue generated by the State Recycling Fund is transferred to LIHEAP to directly benefit Missouri households in need.

As a result of state employee recycling efforts, a \$30,000 contribution was made in fiscal year 2025. This funding will provide energy assistance to approximately 100 homes during the summer months or 38 homes during the winter months, helping families stay safe and comfortable through Missouri's changing seasons.

Since 2010, recycling efforts across state government have contributed more than \$460,000 to the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program. These contributions demonstrate how recycling not only benefits the environment but also strengthens Missouri communities by supporting residents when they need it most.



Surplus and Recycling Program

FY 2026 Goals

The Surplus and Recycling Program continues to grow through collaboration, innovation, and a shared commitment to sustainability. Looking ahead to FY 2026, the program will focus on several key goals to strengthen operations and expand impact across Missouri.



1. Strengthen Agency Partnerships

Continue building partnerships with State agencies to enhance recycling participation, improve communication, and identify new opportunities for reuse and resource sharing.



2. Expand Recycling Education and Engagement

Increase awareness of recycling and sustainability through employee outreach, recognition programs, and hands-on learning opportunities during statewide events.



3. Modernize Process and Reporting

Develop new tools and tracking systems to improve data collection, transparency, and reporting on waste diversion, cost savings, and program performance.



4. Support Program Efficiency and Growth

Identify new markets, materials, and collaborative projects that improve efficiency, reduce waste, and generate savings for State agencies.



5. Promote Sustainability Across State Operations

Integrate recycling and reuse practices into broader State initiatives, ensuring environmental stewardship remains a core part of daily operations.

These goals support the program's mission to reduce waste, save taxpayer dollars, and create a more sustainable future for Missouri.

Recycling Resources

Missouri State Recycling Program

The Missouri State Recycling Program (Office of Administration, Division of General Services) partners with State employees and agencies to facilitate fiscally and environmentally responsible strategies for reuse and recycling of State property.



recycling@oa.mo.gov



573-751-3384



oa.mo.gov/general-services/missouri-state-recycling-program



301 W. High Street, P.O. Box 809 | Jefferson City, MO 65102-0809

State Recycling Contracts



Local Contracts:

genserv.oa.mo.gov/state-recycling-program/recycling-services-contracts



Statewide Contracts:

genserv.oa.mo.gov/state-recycling-program/statewide-recycling-services

MOREuse



genserv.oa.mo.gov/state-recycling-program/moreuse

Missouri Recycling Association

The Missouri Recycling Association (MORA) is a statewide organization advocating for recycling in the state. MORA connects people from public and private organizations, offers industry insights, and strives to influence policy to support Missouri's economy and businesses by extracting the highest and best use of materials at end of life.



573-491-4255



mora.org

Missouri Vocational Enterprises (MVE)

The Department of Corrections' vocational training program offers products and services that meet "buy recycled" criteria, including: cardboard boxes, metal products, toilet paper, envelopes, picnic tables, re-manufactured printer cartridges, and office panel / furniture refurbishing. MVE products and services are only available to State agencies and other tax-supported entities.



800-392-8486 or 573-751-6663



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